

ATCP 72 Updates

What you need to know:

New Code Effective January 25, 2026



License Categories

Tourist Rooming Houses (TRHs) are now separate from hotel/motel licensing categories. New categories are:

- 1 TRH, 2-4 TRHs, 5-9 TRHs.
- Multiple TRHs must be on a single premises to be on the same license.

Sleeping Rooms



- At least 50% of the room's floor area must have a ceiling height of at least 7 feet.
- Number of occupants is based on mattress width:
 - Width 50 inches or less = 1 occupant
 - Greater than 50 inches = 2 occupants
- Beds must be spaced in rooms to allow a 2 foot path for emergency evacuation.



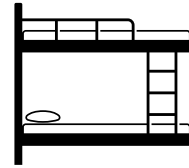
Slip, Trip & Fall Hazards

- Slip-resistant bottom of shower or bathtub.



Handrails & Guards

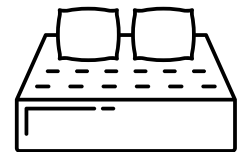
- At least 1 handrail for stairs with more than 3 risers.
- Guards on all open sides of stairs with more than 3 risers.
- All elevated surfaces elevated more than 30 inches above floor or grade need guards on all open sides.
- Space between guards must be less than or equal to 6 inches.
- This includes lofts, landings, platforms, decks, balconies or porches attached to the lodging facility.



Bunk Beds

- Vertical separation of at least 2.5 feet from top of the lower mattress to bottom of the frame for the upper bunk bed.
- Free space of at least 2.5 feet above the mattress of the upper bunk bed.
- Permanently installed guard rails for upper bunk needs:
 - Top of the guard to be at least 5 inches above the top of the mattress.
 - Bottom of the guard to be no more than 3.5 inches above top of the upper bunk frame.

Mattress Coverings



- An easily cleanable, non-absorbent mattress protector must cover the entire sleeping surface.



Building Evacuation Diagram

- Must indicate a minimum of 2 evacuation routes that lead to the exterior of the building.
- Must be conspicuously posted in each sleeping room or provided in a guest book.

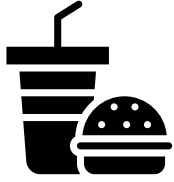
Water Supply



- Annual bacteria & nitrate testing required.
- Minimum hot water temperature of 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

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Food

The following may be offered to guests without a retail food license:

- Non-TCS (temperature controlled for safety) prepackaged food items (example: cookies, crackers, popcorn, coffee).
- Dry Bulk Spices (such as salt and pepper)
- Grocery shopping as requested by the guest if all of the following are met:
 - All TCS food items must be delivered and placed under refrigeration within 2 hours of purchase.
 - Before food is placed in the guest refrigerator, the temperature of the refrigerator is 41 degrees F or below.

TCS foods and opened non-TCS food items including ice, need to be removed from the unit before it is assigned to another guest.



Guest Registration

Information must include:

- Full name of registered guest.
- Guest's contact information (phone number, email or mailing address)
- Arrival and departure dates.
- Number of guests in the party.

Records should be kept for 3 years.

Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors



Smoke Detectors **MUST** be in all of the following locations:

- On each floor level excluding crawl spaces and unfinished attics.
- Outside of each separate sleeping area, within 21 feet of any door to a sleeping room.
- Within each sleeping room.

Carbon Monoxide Alarm **MUST** be in all of the following locations:

- Outside of each separate sleeping area, within 21 feet of any door to a sleeping room.
- In a sleeping room if a fuel-burning appliance is located within the sleeping room or its attached bathroom.



Closing Criteria

The following are reasons your TRH could be temporarily closed until remediated:

1. Unsafe water supply.
2. Waterborne disease outbreak.
3. Septic system deemed unusable by DSPS or local zoning authority.
4. Absence of required smoke alarm in any designated areas.
5. Absence of required carbon monoxide alarm in any designated areas.
6. Lack of pest control (evidence of an infestation of numerous live pests or bed bug infestation).
7. Any other conditions creating an immediate danger to health or safety.

This list is not all inclusive. To view the entire code visit https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/atcp/055/72